



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

Alaska Region

# Prince William Sound Kelp Mariculture Webinar

## Draft Alaska Aquaculture Permitting Portal

Alicia Bishop, NMFS Alaska Region  
Aquaculture Coordinator

Hannah Wilson, Alaska Sea Grant Fellow

October 23, 2020

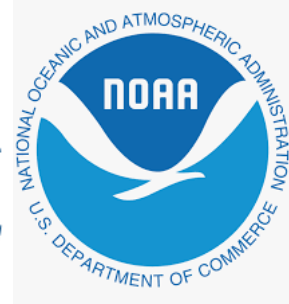
# Meeting a Need

- The Mariculture Development Plan (2018) – identified the need for a central clearing house for mariculture information regarding the regulatory and permitting processes.
- The NOAA Fisheries Alaska Mariculture Workshop Summary Report (2020) – identified the need for an online permitting portal that provides information on all the permitting/leasing requirements all in one place



# Permitting Portal Interagency Working Group

- Multi-agency process so we needed participation across state and federal governments
  - **State:** Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Alaska Department of Natural Resources
  - **Federal:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NOAA Fisheries
  - **Federal/University:** Sea Grant



# Permitting Portal Interagency Working Group

## ➤ Reviewed Existing Aquaculture Permitting Portals and Permitting Guides

- [Massachusetts Aquaculture Permitting Portal](#)
- [Connecticut Aquaculture Permitting Guide](#)
- [Washington State Joint Aquaculture Resource Permit Application](#)

## ➤ Drafting Pages for Permitting Portal

- Alaska Aquaculture Permitting Flowchart
- “Before You Start” Guidance
- Farming Application Step-By-Step Permitting Guidance
- Siting Tools

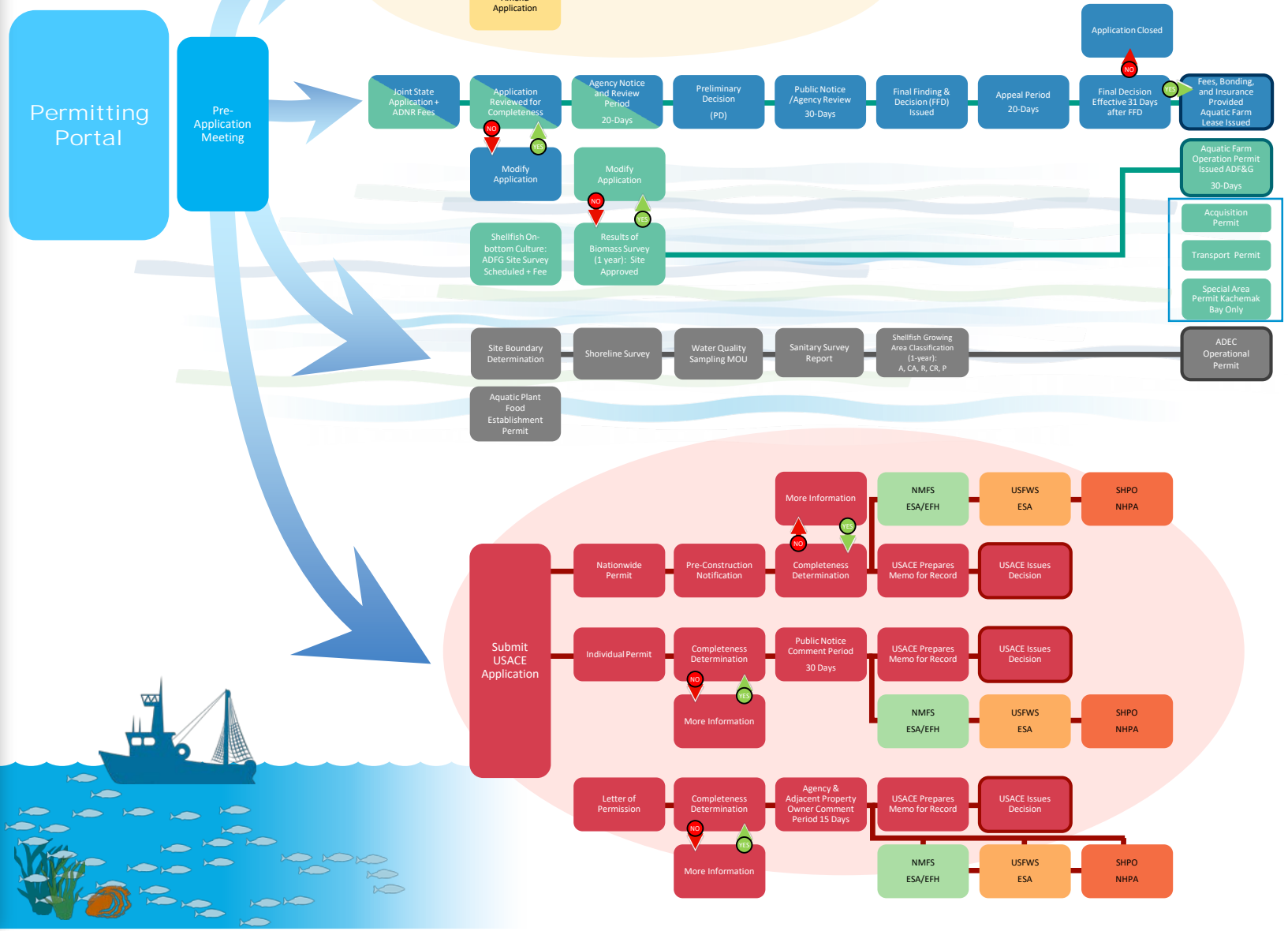




Contact before you start:

# DRAFT Alaska Aquaculture Permitting Process

- Alaska Native entities in your area (tribes and village corporations) as appropriate.
- Your local government/city planners
- Nearby property owners
- Other area users (commercial fishermen, subsistence users, etc.)



# “Before You Start” Guidance

- Creating a Clear Project Plan and Questions to Consider
- Talking to Your Community
- Contacts for Pre-Application Meeting

AGENCY	CONTACT INFORMATION
<b>ADNR Aquatic Farming Program Coordinator</b>	(907) 269-8543
<b>ADFG Permit Coordinator</b>	(907) 465-4724, <a href="mailto:dfg.dcf.aquaticfarming@alaska.gov">dfg.dcf.aquaticfarming@alaska.gov</a>
<b>ADEC Shellfish Program Coordinator</b>	(907) 269-7636, <a href="mailto:dec.shellfish.processing@alaska.gov">dec.shellfish.processing@alaska.gov</a>
<b>NMFS Alaska Regional Aquaculture Coordinator</b>	(907) 586-7224, <a href="mailto:alicia.bishop@noaa.gov">alicia.bishop@noaa.gov</a>
<b>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</b>	Southeast Office: (907) 790-4490
	Southcentral Office: (907) 753-2712
<b>U.S. Coast Guard District 17</b>	(907) 963-2269
<b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</b>	(907) 271-2788
<b>U.S. Forest Service</b>	Chugach National Forest: (907) 743-9500, <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/chugach">www.fs.fed.us/r10/chugach</a>
	Tongass National Forest: (907) 225-3101, <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass">www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass</a>



# Farming Application Step-By-Step



**AQUATIC FARM PROGRAM APPLICATION**

You are encouraged to submit a completed application as early in the filing period as possible. The 2012 application form must be used and properly completed before state agencies can process your project. An **incomplete application will not be processed**. A checklist is included to assist you in meeting this requirement. The best way to facilitate the review of your application is to schedule a pre-application meeting with DNR and ADF&G to discuss your project. The original application including attachments and all required fees must be delivered and physically present in the Alaska Department of Natural Resources office no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**The project location is in:** (Check one)  
(Southeast = Projects south of or in the Yakutat area / Southcentral = Projects north of Yakutat)

**Southcentral Alaska**

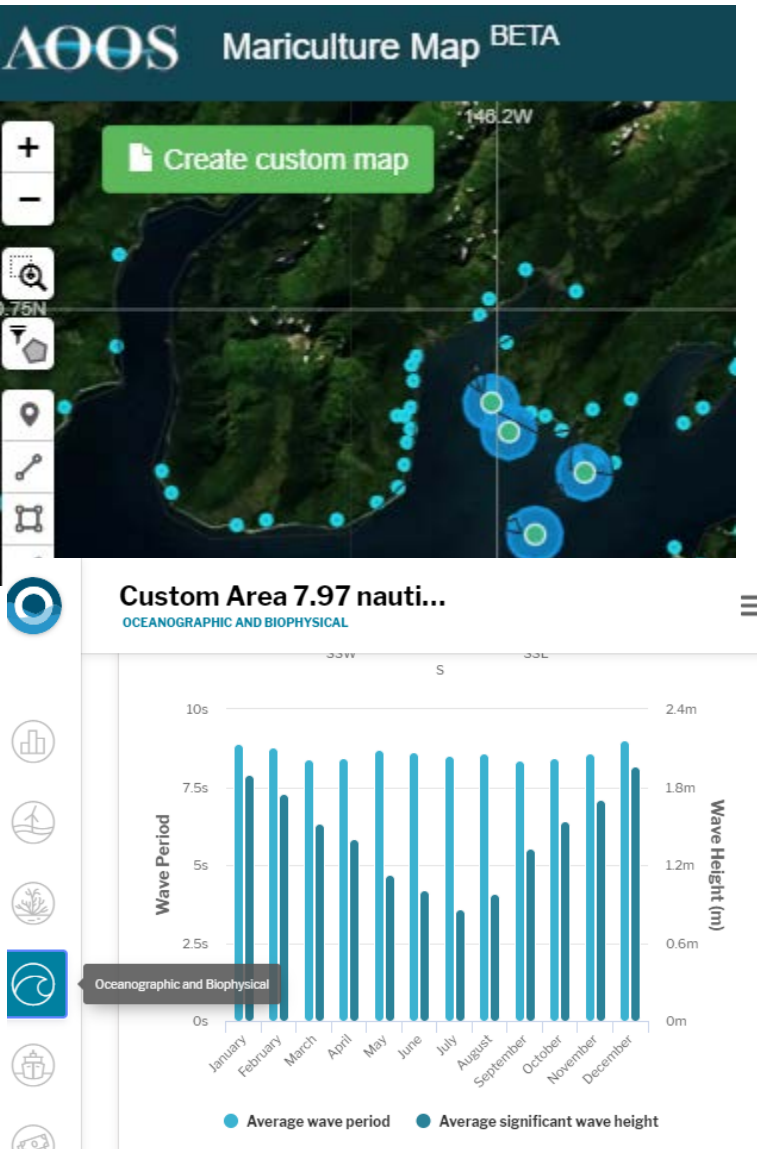
**A. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name	Contact Name
Business Name (If Applicable)	Contact Phone Number
Mailing Address (PO Box or Street Address)	Business Partner Name (If applicable)
City	Business Partner Email Address (If applicable)
State	Business Partner Phone (If applicable)
Zip	
Email Address	
Home/Office Phone	Cell Phone

- Steps in the process and associated timing
- Types of additional permits that may be necessary
- Links to state and federal applications
- When to submit application to USACE
- Best Management Practices for both Endangered Species Act and Essential Fish Habitat Consultations



# Siting Guidance



## ➤ Siting Tools

- [Mariculture Map](#)
- [NOAA OceanReports](#)

## ➤ Siting Considerations

- Herring Spawning Areas
- Commercial Subsistence or Personal Use Harvest Areas
- No nearby seal/sea lion haul outs or pupping areas

## ➤ Required Maps for State and Federal Permit Applications

- General Location Map
- Detailed Location Map
- Site Plan Map



# Future Guidance Development

## ➤ Common Lease and Permit Application Mistakes

- Formatting
- Species
- Frequency of other uses

## ➤ Resources for Growers

- Workshops and Classes
- Financial Aid
- Best Management Practices

## ➤ Other?



# Next Steps

- Finish agency review of draft pages
- Get feedback from existing and new farmers
- Develop guidance document
- Create online permitting portal
  - Post on Alaska Sea Grant website
- Portal 2.0 streamline applications and differentiate pathways between different types of growers



# Questions or Comments?

## Contact Information:

Alicia Bishop, Alaska Regional Aquaculture Coordinator

[alicia.bishop@noaa.gov](mailto:alicia.bishop@noaa.gov)

